

Capsule Summary
SM-635
Allstan Tobacco Barn
Clements Vicinity
Private

c. 1840

Situated near the head of St. Clements Bay on the tract called "Dynard" is the Allstan Tobacco Barn. This one story, cross axial plan building with a single shed was constructed in the 1840s. From the exterior, the barn appears much like other contemporary tobacco barns in St. Mary's County such as the Dryadocking Farm Tobacco Barn (SM-546). It features a stone foundation, vertical exterior siding, and a metal roof. In stark contrast to the traditional exterior appearance, the barn incorporates a previously undocumented combination of silled and earthfast framing traditions. While earthfast framing was commonplace in early seventeenth century English settlement, this framing method is still practiced in St. Mary's County. Interestingly, archaeological investigations and extant examples of earthfast barns, such as the Pole Barn at Cox's Endeavor (SM-601) and the Dixon's Purchase Barn (SM-237), have not revealed evidence of a simultaneous use of these framing traditions during one period of construction.

The framing of the Allstan Barn utilizes a sill on the east, west, and north sides. The south side, however, features a series of partially tooled, earthfast cedar posts. These earthfast posts are stabilized by a series of horizontal rails which serve as nailers for pit sawn slats. Sheltered by an earthfast shed, these slats permit the proper air flow for the curing of the tobacco. Two braced, intermediate sills extend the width of the barn and are shouldered and mortised into the sill on the north side and earthfast posts on the south side. Other interesting details include the use of wrought strap hinges and nails on the doors, the patterns of reused timber, as well as the use of an interrupted sill on the barn's southwest side. In the latter, the sill is not for lateral stability, but as a support for the southwest corner granary's floor joists. Overall, the Allstan Tobacco barn's rare framing, its visible tie to the Allstan/Pilkerton House (SM-634), and the rolling topography of the farm's cultivated fields adequately relates the agricultural landscape of mid-nineteenth century St. Mary's County.

SM-635, Allstan Tobacco Barn
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870
Historic Period Theme:	Architecture Agriculture

Resource Type

Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Rural
Historic Function and Use:	Tobacco Barn
Known Design Source:	None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-635

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Hill Top, Dynard

and/or common Allstan Tobacco Barn (pref.)

2. Location

street & number 23458 Colton Point Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Clements ☒ vicinity of congressional district 7

state Md. county St. Mary's TM-31, G-8, P-52

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Richard P. Pilkerton

street & number General Delivery telephone no.: 301-769-3591

city, town Clements state and zip code Md 20624

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber EWA 630

street & number folio 422

city, town Leonardtown state Md

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. SM-635

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

Situated on a prominence near the head of St. Clements Bay, the Allstan Tobacco Barn is located approximately 1 mile south of the intersection of Maryland Routes 234 and 242 near Dynard, Maryland. A dirt drive stretches approximately 0.05 of a mile northeast from Route 242 and terminates at the Allstan/Pilkerton House (SM-634). The tobacco barn is situated about seventy yards south of the house and situated on rolling topography. Other nearby buildings include two twentieth century tobacco barns and several garages and work buildings.

The Allstan Tobacco Barn is a long, one story, cross axial plan building with a single shed along its south elevation. Constructed c. 1840, the barn features one of the most unique foundation and framing systems documented in St. Mary's County. Three braced frame walls of the building are constructed on a stone foundation with the fourth wall consisting of earthfast posts. The exterior of the building is sheathed with vertical boards attached to the hewn and pit sawn frame with mature cut nails. The juncture of the wall and roof, the building exhibits an open cornice with the ties extending beyond the wall surface. The common rafter roof is covered with raised-seam metal.

Measuring approximately twenty four feet by sixty feet, the barn is entered through two sets of double-doors hung on wrought strap hinges and constructed of vertical boards attached to horizontal and diagonal battens with rosehead wrought nails -- one set of doors located on both the south and north sides. A single door with similar hardware is situated on the east gable end. A partially enclosed twelve foot shed, constructed of earthfast posts, shades the south double-doors as well as a granary.

The main block's framing system consists of eight structural bays set at approximately 10 foot centers. Because of the difference in framing on the north and south walls, each bay features posts anchored in two different manners. On the north wall, hewn posts are mortised-and-tenoned into a hewn sill and wall plate. On the south wall, however, the cedar posts are set directly into the ground and mortised and tenoned into the wall plate. Interestingly, most of these posts were left untooled where only the exterior side and the upper portions were hewn square. While constructed differently, these two sides still function within the conventional mid-nineteenth framing logic for tobacco barns -- as seen at the Drydocking Farm Barn (SM-546) and the Carberry/Abell Farm Barn (SM-155). Two of the bays, for instance, feature braced transverse sills. The down braces are half-dovetailed, lapped, and tenoned into the sills and posts. These transverse sills are underpinned using stone piers that consist of fieldstones mortared together. While the three walls utilize down bracing and three sets of horizontal rails or nailers for lateral stability, the south wall is held rigid only by the horizontal rails. In order to receive these rails, each of the posts are notched. Instead of receiving exterior siding, the rails are actually nailers for vertical slats which permit adequate ventilation -- much like that found at the Drydocking Farm Barn. Perhaps the most intriguing detail of the building can be found near the southwest corner of the building. Here the earthfast posts were notched out at their base to receive the sill for the granary. Because the crawl space beneath the granary is not accessible, it remains unclear whether the sill is interrupted or merely lapped around the post. Nonetheless, the post is notched and the sill is shouldered onto the post. In this context the sill forms the primary means of support for the granary's joists and does not appear to have been necessarily intended as a sill for the tobacco barn.

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-635

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Overlooking the head of St. Clements Bay on the tract called "Dynard" is the Allstan Tobacco Barn. This one story, cross axial plan building with a single shed was constructed in the 1840s. From the exterior, the barn appears much like other contemporary tobacco barns in St. Mary's County such as the Dryadocking Farm Tobacco Barn (SM-546). It features a stone foundation, vertical exterior siding, and a metal roof. In stark contrast to the traditional exterior appearance, the barn incorporates a previously undocumented combination of silled and earthfast framing traditions. While earthfast framing was commonplace in early seventeenth century English settlement, this framing method is still practiced in St. Mary's County. Archaeological investigations and extant examples of earthfast barns, such as the Pole Barn at Coxe's Endeavor (SM-601) and the Dixon's Purchase Barn (SM-237), however, do not exhibit evidence of simultaneous use of these framing traditions during one period of construction.

The framing of the Allstan Barn utilizes a sill on the east, west, and north sides. The south side, however, features a series of partially tooled, earthfast cedar posts. These earthfast posts are stabilized by a series of horizontal rails which serve as nailers for pit sawn slats. Sheltered by an earthfast shed, these slats permit the proper air flow for the curing of the tobacco. Two braced, intermediate sills extend the width of the barn and are shouldered and mortised into the sill on the north side and earthfast posts on the south side. Other interesting details include the use of wrought strap hinges and nails on the doors, the patterns of reused timber, as well as the use of an interrupted sill on the barn's southwest side. In the latter, the sill is not for lateral stability, but as a support for the southwest corner granary's floor joists.

The combination of the Allstan Tobacco barn's rare framing, its visible tie to the Allstan/Pilkerton House (SM-634), and the rolling topography of the farm's cultivated fields all relate a high degree of historical integrity thus making it certainly eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-635

See Significance 8.1.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2 acres around barnQuadrangle name LeonardtownQuadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting				Northing				

B

Zone	Easting				Northing				

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County Dept. of Planning & Zoningdate 6-16-98street & number 22740 Washington Streettelephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate Md

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

SM-635, Allstan Tobacco Barn
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

The hewn wall plates provide further lateral stability and form the main support for a series of hewn transverse ties. These ties are placed independently of the wall frame and allow the interior to be divided into a series of four foot "rooms." These rooms are demarcated by three tiers of poles for the hanging of tobacco. Because of the width of the barn, these tier poles are supported midway by vertical posts which rest on the ground and are mortised into the transverse ties. Many of these ties reveal evidence of reuse, as several of them exhibit robbed mortises. The transverse ties support a flat false plate which carries the common rafters. Each set of rafters are strengthened by three collars that are half-lapped and nailed into the rafters. Each rafter pair is joined at the peak with half-lap joints.

The south shed was constructed mainly for the storage of farm implements. In order to accommodate this function, the it was left largely open, except at the southwestern end, where a granary was constructed of reused building materials. Sheathed with vertical siding on the exterior and horizontal planks on the interior, this segregated storage unit could only be entered from the east side through a vertical plank door which exhibits wrought strap hinges as well as a large box lock. Set well above the ground, the granary was constructed to accommodate the anticipated loads demanded for grain storage. The floor was well supported by joists and one-inch thick plank.

SM-635, Allstan Tobacco Barn
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber EWA 630, Folio 422

Grantee: John Kevin Quade and Eleanor E. Quad

Grantor: William H. and Richard P. Pilkerton

Date: October 30, 1991

Notes: The property is called "Part of Dinard's and is listed as containing 150 acres.

Reference: Liber DBK 146, Folio 304

Grantee: William H. and Richard P. Pilkerton

Grantor: Esther O. Pilkerton

Date: November 20, 1968

Notes: Interestingly, the deed notes that William and Richard "have steadily worked the farm for many years, improved it agriculturally and repaired and built new buildings."

Reference: Liber EBA 4, 383

Grantee: Esther O. Pilkerton (wife of William F. Pilkerton)

Grantor: Louisa A. Hall

Date: June 20, 1904

Reference: Liber JFF 8, Folio 101

Grantee: Louisa H. Hall

Grantor: Demetrius and Cornelia E. Coode

Date: January 26, 1885

Notes: Here, the conveyance mentions the property as containing a "Dwelling House, Barn, and Stables" as well as a storehouse. The property is listed as originally containing 220 acres, but a realignment of the road modified the acreage.

Note: Due to the lack of a bean clause in the previous deed, the following conveyances represent the best possibilities for the transfer of "Dinards."

Reference: Liber JFF 2, Folio 44

Grantee: John F. Dent, in trust for L. Jackson Allstan

Grantor: Richard H. and Mary B. Miles

Date: December 28, 1875

Notes: The deed mentions that L. J. Allstan conducted a "mercantile business" at "Hill Top," an area near the present day Allstan/Pilkerton House.

Reference: Liber JAC 5, Folio 321

Grantee: Richard H. Miles

Grantor: James R. Alvey

Date: September 21, 1871

Notes: Called "Part of Denard," the property is listed as containing 220 acres. The deed also mentions a circuit court case involving the State of Maryland (William McCaun and Peter Crain) v. L. J. Allstan, Daniel L. Morgan, Thomas W. Gough, and John T. Clarke. It appears that as a result of the case the property was sold at public auction.

SM-635, Allstan Tobacco Barn
St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

Reference: Liber JH 12, Folio 143
Grantee: Llewellyn J. Allstan
Grantor: Jonathan Hayden
Date: February 16, 1841
Notes: Here Denard features 202 acres.

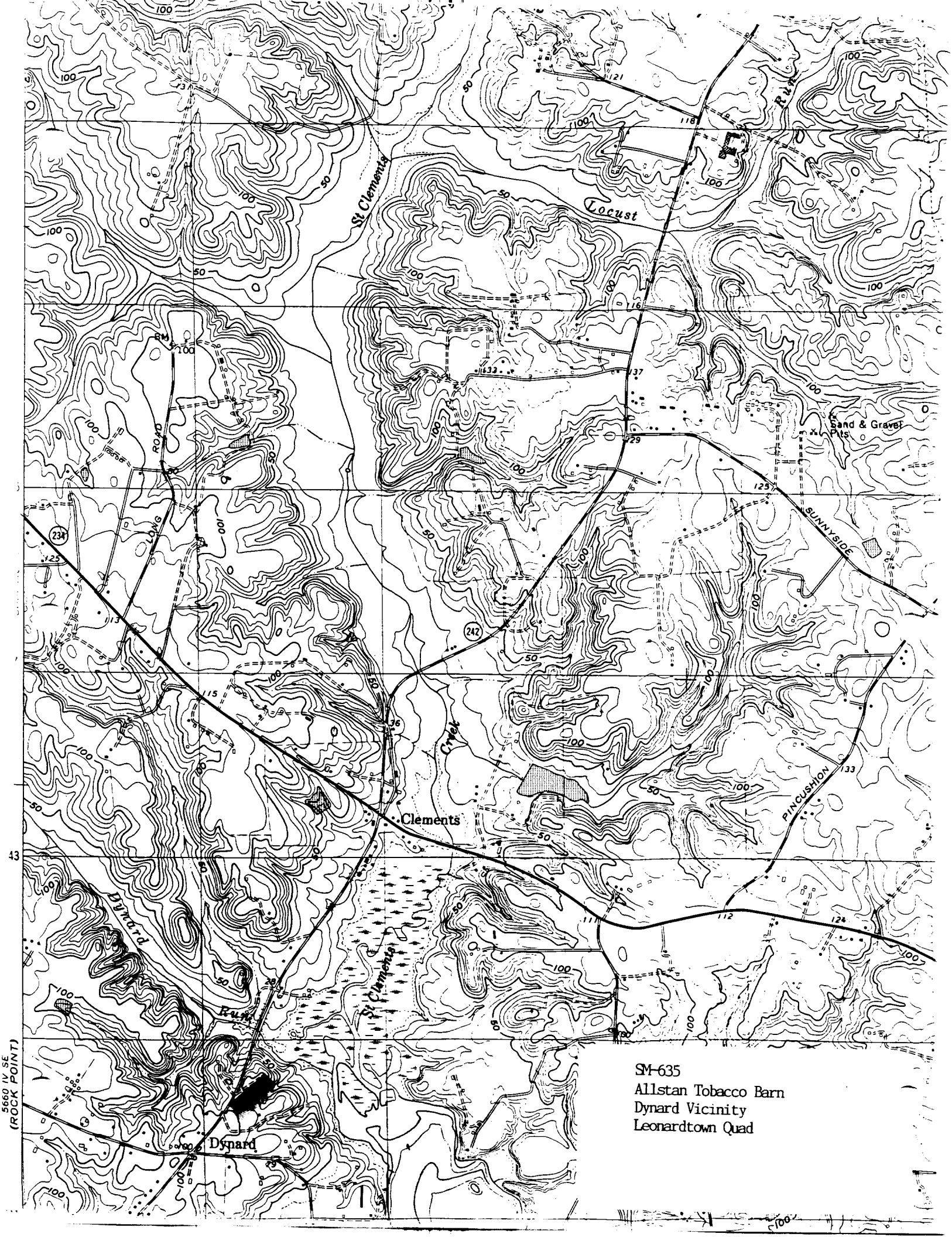
Reference: Liber JH 11, Folio 405-406
Grantee: Jonathan Hayden
Grantor: James W. Roach
Date: May 27, 1839

Reference: Liber JH 8, Folio 451
Grantee: James W. Roach
Grantor: James L. Corry (of Charles County)
Date: February 26, 1830
Notes: This deed notes how James L. Corry received the property. Unfortunately, no deed references or dates were included and none could be found in the Grantee/Grantor index. They are as follows:

Grantee: James L. Corry
Grantor: William Corry

Grantee: William Corry
Grantor: Thomas Gardiner

Grantee: Thomas Gardiner
Grantor: Henry H. Chapman, trustee





SM-635

Alhston Tobacco Farm

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

May/98

4d SHPO

S+W elevations

1 of 4



SM-635

Alston Tobacco Farm

St. Mary's County

Kirk Fanzetta

May/98

md SHPO

N + E elevations

2 of 4



SM-635

Alleton Tobacco Barn

St Mary's County

Kirk Parzetta

May/98

Ed SHPO

Brace + Transverse sill detail - looking N

3 of 4



SM-635

Willston Tobacco Barn

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

May/98

and SHPO

Note - 201 post + interrupted call detail - looking W

4 of 4